



BOARD BULLETIN

November 1, 2013

Library Costs Per Capita

In an effort to assist the Board with making informed decisions during the budget process, staff continually examines the cost of government services and seeks to benchmark these costs against other jurisdictions. Below please find an overview of Stanly County's FY 13-14 library services budget in comparison to several other counties of similar size as well as larger counties in the Charlotte metro region:

County	Library Budget FY 13-14	Library Budget Per Capita ¹
Similar Size Counties		
Haywood	\$1,362,382	\$22.80
Columbus	\$1,274,403	\$21.93
Stanly	\$1,192,368	\$19.75
Lenoir	\$1,140,052	\$19.20
Granville	\$992,072	\$16.96
Franklin	\$823,254	\$13.21
Lee	\$632,252	\$10.56
Duplin	\$583,973	\$9.62
Charlotte Metro Region Counties		
Mecklenburg	\$26,495,331	\$26.86
Rowan	\$2,964,039	\$21.45
Union	\$4,170,391	\$19.82
Stanly	\$1,192,368	\$19.75
Gaston	\$3,834,861	\$18.30
Lincoln	\$1,183,214	\$14.87
Cabarrus	\$2,333,082	\$12.51
Cleveland	\$1,060,389	\$10.90

Operational costs are only one component of the program evaluation equation. It is also important to analyze outcome data. Stanly County's adult literacy rates are higher than the majority of counties of similar size population. Additionally, Stanly County's book circulation per capita is on par with Cabarrus and Gaston counties.

¹ Population statistics are based on the July 1, 2013 county population projections from the NC State Office of Management and Budget

Retirement Contributions Set to Decrease

The Board of Trustees for the NC Local Government Retirement System met in mid October to review the annual actuarial valuation report. Based on the actuarial assessment, the required employee retirement contributions for FY 14-15 will decrease from 7.07% to 6.94 % for general employees and from 7.55 % to 7.42 % percent for sworn law enforcement officers. The Board of Trustees is scheduled to vote on the recommended rates at their January 2014 meeting.

A decrease in required retirement contributions would result in a savings of approximately \$20,000 for the County in FY 14-15.

EDC Website Metrics

Below please find several key analytical results associated with the performance of the County's economic development (EDC) website. The results include a comparison to the same 12 month period last year. Although the number of unique visitors declined, the quality of the visits improved.

Metrics	Nov '11-Oct '12	Nov '12-Oct '13
Unique Visitors – Number of unduplicated visitors	1,661	1,505
% New Visits – Estimated percentage of first time visitors	70.5%	78.8%
Pages/Visit – Avg. number of pages viewed per visit	2.94	3.10
Bounce Rate – Percentage of time a visitor leaves the website after only viewing the initial landing page.	48.6%	43.6%

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Regular Board Meeting Monday, November 4
7:00 PM
Commons Meeting Room